

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended). A variable length cutting device, comprising:

a rotary cutter;

a transfer cylinder cooperating with said rotary cutter for cutting a ribbon into signatures having a desired cutoff length, said transfer cylinder having a central cylinder axis, a circumferential region, ~~and including~~ a gripper and a tucking blade disposed in said circumferential region at a fixed distance from said central cylinder axis<sub>+</sub>, and an adjustable diameter portion disposed between said gripper and said tucking blade in said circumferential region of said transfer cylinder, said adjustable diameter portion being movable in a direction toward and away from said central cylinder axis for adjusting the desired cutoff length of the signatures; and

a dancer roller for compensating for variations in length of the ribbon.

Claim 2 (currently amended). ~~The cutting device according to claim 1, wherein~~ A variable length cutting device,  
comprising:

a rotary cutter; and

a transfer cylinder cooperating with said rotary cutter for  
cutting a ribbon into signatures having a desired cutoff  
length, said transfer cylinder having a central cylinder  
axis, a circumferential region, a gripper and a tucking blade  
disposed in said circumferential region at a fixed distance  
from said central cylinder axis, and an adjustable diameter  
portion disposed between said gripper and said tucking blade  
in said circumferential region of said transfer cylinder,  
said adjustable diameter portion being movable in a direction  
toward and away from said central cylinder axis for adjusting  
the desired cutoff length of the signatures, and said  
adjustable diameter portion ~~is~~ being an adjustable roller  
movable in the direction toward and away from said central  
cylinder axis.

Claim 3 (currently amended). ~~The cutting device according to claim 1, including~~ A variable length cutting device,  
comprising:

a rotary cutter; and

a transfer cylinder cooperating with said rotary cutter for cutting a ribbon into signatures having a desired cutoff length, said transfer cylinder having a central cylinder axis, a circumferential region, a gripper and a tucking blade disposed in said circumferential region at a fixed distance from said central cylinder axis, and an adjustable diameter portion disposed between said gripper and said tucking blade in said circumferential region of said transfer cylinder, said adjustable diameter portion being movable in a direction toward and away from said central cylinder axis for adjusting the desired cutoff length of the signatures; and

one of a linear jack and an eccentric jack connected to said adjustable diameter portion for moving said adjustable diameter portion toward and away from said central cylinder axis.

Claim 4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (previously presented). The cutting device according to claim 1, including a cutting blade fixed to said rotary cutter and a cutting ledge disposed in said circumferential

region of said transfer cylinder for cooperating with said cutting blade.

Claim 6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (withdrawn). The cutting device according to claim 1, including a gripper and a cutting ledge each connected to said variable diameter portion, said gripper and said cutting ledge movable toward and away from said central cylinder axis together with said variable diameter portion.

Claim 8 (withdrawn-currently amended). A variable length cutoff folder, comprising:

a rotary cutter;

a transfer cylinder configured to cooperate with said rotary cutter for cutting a ribbon into signatures having a desired cutoff length, said transfer cylinder having a central cylinder axis, ~~and~~ a circumferential region, and an adjustable diameter portion disposed in said circumferential region of said transfer cylinder, said adjustable diameter portion connected to said transfer cylinder and being movable in a direction toward and away from said central cylinder

axis for adjusting the desired cutoff length of the  
signatures;

a dancer roller for compensating for variations in length of  
the ribbon;

a jaw cylinder having a cylinder jacket and a jaw provided on  
said cylinder jacket; and

a gripper and a tucking blade provided in said  
circumferential region of said transfer cylinder at a fixed  
distance from said cylinder axis, cooperating with said jaw  
for folding the signatures into said jaw, and said adjustable  
diameter portion being located between said gripper and said  
tucking blade.

Claim 9 (currently amended). A variable length cutting  
device, comprising:

a rotary cutter;

a transfer cylinder cooperating with said rotary cutter for  
cutting a ribbon into signatures having a desired cutoff  
length, said transfer cylinder having a central cylinder  
axis, a circumferential region carrying the ribbon during a

cutting operation, ~~and including~~ a gripper and a tucking blade disposed in said circumferential region at a fixed distance from said central cylinder axis<sub>7</sub>, and an adjustable diameter portion disposed between said gripper and said tucking blade in said circumferential region of said transfer cylinder, said adjustable diameter portion being movable in a direction toward and away from said central cylinder axis for adjusting the desired cutoff length of the signatures by selectively shortening and lengthening the circumferential region carrying the ribbon; and

a dancer roller for compensating for variations in length of the ribbon.

Claim 10 (currently amended). A variable length cutting device, comprising:

a rotary cutter; and

a transfer cylinder cooperating with said rotary cutter for cutting a ribbon into signatures having a desired cutoff length, said transfer cylinder having a central cylinder axis, and a circumferential region<sub>7</sub>, and an adjustable roller disposed in said circumferential region of said transfer cylinder, said adjustable roller being movable in a direction

toward and away from said central cylinder axis for adjusting the desired cutoff length of the signatures.

Claim 11 (currently amended). A variable length cutting device, comprising:

a rotary cutter;

a transfer cylinder cooperating with said rotary cutter for cutting a ribbon into signatures having a desired cutoff length, said transfer cylinder having a central cylinder axis, and a circumferential region, one of a linear jack and an eccentric jack, and an adjustable diameter portion disposed in said circumferential region of said transfer cylinder, said one of said linear jack and said eccentric jack being connected to said adjustable diameter portion, and moving to move said adjustable diameter portion in a direction toward and away from said central cylinder axis for adjusting the desired cutoff length of the signatures; and  
a dancer roller for compensating for variations in length of the ribbon.